

ABSTRACT

A torque converter (1) comprises a pump impeller (1a) and turbine runner (1b) which transmit a torque via a fluid, and a lockup clutch (2) which engage the pump impeller (1a) and turbine runner (1b) according to an oil pressure. The pump impeller (1a) is connected to an engine (21), and the turbine runner (1b) is connected to an automatic transmission (23). An oil pressure control valve (3) supplies oil pressure to the lockup clutch (2) according to a signal from the controller (5). The controller (5) calculates a rotation speed increase rate of the turbine runner (1b) (S1), and controls the oil pressure of the oil pressure control valve (3) under a pressure increase rate which increases as the rotation speed increase rate (S10) increases, thereby preventing rotation speed fluctuations of the engine (23) accompanying lockup of the lockup clutch (2).